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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/721,477 | 11/25/2003 | James Copland Moyer | 386168008US1 | 6019 |
| 25096 | 7590 | 11/21/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| PERKINS COIE LLP | | | TRAN, THUY V | |
| PATENT-SEA | | | ART UNIT | |
| P.O. BOX 1247 | | | 2821 | |
| SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247 | | | PAPER NUMBER | |

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/721,477 | Applicant(s) MOYER, JAMES COPLAND | |
| | Examiner Thuy V. Tran | Art Unit 2821 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE filed 10/18/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the Applicant's Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on October 28th, 2005 and preliminary amendment concurrently filed therewith. In virtue of this amendment, claims 1-5 and 7-12 were previously canceled; and thus claim 6 is now remaining active in the instant application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) entered

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 28th, 2005 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Qian et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,914,572, which is Prior Art of record).

With respect to claim 6, Qian et al. discloses, in Figs. 1-2 and 3A-D, an apparatus for driving a discharge lamp [Ld] and a corresponding method comprising (a) converting (via Q1, Q2; see Fig. 1) a DC signal (at the output of rectifier [DB] or [Ce]; see Fig. 1) into an AC signal, (b) filtering (via Crs; see Fig. 1) the AC signal (output of the inverter [Q1, Q2]; see Fig. 1) to the discharge lamp [Ld], (c) oscillating the converted DC signal such that the AC signal has a

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frequency based on a resonant frequency (which is made by [Cc, L2, and C2]; see Fig. 1) of said lamp [Ld] (via a controller [CN]; see col. 10, lines 52-55), and (d) sensing (via current sensor SI; see Fig. 1) a full wave current (see Figs. 3A and 3D) flowing through said lamp [Ld] without the use of a sense capacitor (without any capacitor between a terminal of the lamp [Ld] and the current sensor [SI]; see Fig. 1) connected to a terminal of said lamp [Ld].

Response to Applicant's Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claim 6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

It is noted that the arguments that the Applicant made in the previous response filed on April 29th, 2005 were not true. Element D5 shown in Fig. 2 of the cited prior art to Lin is a capacitor and Figs. 1 and 2 of Lin are completely different from each other (see connection nodes of elements [D, Rs, Ds, and D6] in Fig. 1 and those of elements [C3, Rs, D5, D6, 42, and FB] in Fig. 2).

Citation of relevant prior art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art Fujii et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,866,592) discloses a control system for an inverter apparatus.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -5:00 PM).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

11/17/2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thuy V. Tran', written in a cursive style.

THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER